improve and simplify the billing procedure in DESU and gradual stabilisation of the computerised billing system, DESU has been able to considerably bring down the incidence of incorrect and delayed billing.

Clearance of Bodhghat project

2911. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has recently approached the Central Government for clearance of the Bodhghat project on Indrawati river; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and what is Central Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Bodhghat Hydro-electric Project was sanctioned in February, 1979 by the Planning Commission. As the forest land required for the Project was not transferred immediately after approval of the Project, the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 became applicable to it. The State Authorities have submitted a proposal for clearance of the Project under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 to the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests. The Project will be sanctioned again only after it is cleared under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

Dukwan Hydel Scheme

2912. SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Uttar Pradesh Government has proposed a hydro-electric scheme called Dukwan Hydel Scheme on Betwa river;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the above scheme will be a subsitute for the Orchha multipurpose project which would irrigate an area of 29150 ha. in the Niwari Tehsil of Tikamgarh District;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the population of Niwari Tehsil comprises of 33 per cent backward class people; and

(d) whether the Niwari Tehsil of Tikamgarh district will be deprived from irrigation benefits for all time to come due to the taking up of the Dukwan Hydel Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The Dukwan Hydro-electric Project (3×75 MW) envisaging construction of a power house at the toe of the existing dam across the Betwa river to utilise the regulated releases from existing Natatila and Dukwan reservoirs was approved by the Technical Advisory Committee of the Planning Commission in August, 1965 in the State sector. The project was, however, not taken up due to financial constraints. No fresh proposal/revised project report for taking up the scheme has been received in the Centtal Electricity Authority from the State Government.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected from the State Govt. and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Coal linkage to Kothagudem Thermal Power Station Stage-V Extension

2913. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal linkage has been sanctioned to Kothagudem Thermal Power Station Stage-V Extension;